

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FOR NEA/INS AND S/P, PAUL KREISBERG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: US, IN, OVIP
SUBJECT: WASHINGTON VISIT OF PILOO MODY

1. JANATA PARTY MP PILOO MODY AND HIS AMERICAN WIFE VINA WILL BE IN THE US ON A PRIVATE VISIT BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 22, WHEN THEY PLAN TO REACH NEW YORK FOLLOWING A HOLIDAY IN EUROPE. THEY WILL BE IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 4, THEN GO TO LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO. THE MODYS HAVE WRITTEN TO PAUL KREISBERG ABOUT THEIR PLANS, BUT PILOO ALSO ASKED THAT WE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT AND SEEK TO ARANGE SOME MEETINGS FOR HIM DURING HIS STAY IN WASHINGTON.

2. AS YOU'RE AWARE, MODY RETURNED TO PARLIAMENT IN THE SPRING RAJYA SABHA ELECTION AND CONTINUES FROM THAT PERCH TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN JANATA PARTY COUNCILS. HIS SENIOR STANDING HAS HELPED PROMPT SPECULATION THAT HE MAY BE INCLUDED IN A REVAMPING OF THE CABINET, PERHAPS AS HEALTH MINISTER TO REPLACE THE DISMISSED RAJ NARAIN. DESPITE HIS EARLIER ASSOCIATION WITH CHARAN SINGH IN THE BLD, HE WAS CAREFUL TO REMAIN ALOOF DURING THE PROLONGED POLITICAL CRISIS FOLLOWING CHARAN SINGH'S OUSTER BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

3. MODY WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET WITH SENATOR MOYNIHAN,
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WHOM HE KNEW WELL WHEN MOYNIHAN WAS AMBASSADOR HERE. HE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE SESSIONS WITH SENATORS STEVENSON AND BAYH, BOTH OF WHOM HE HAS MET BEFORE. WE HOPE THE DEPARTMENT CAN FACILITATE THESE IF CONGRESS IS STILL IN SESSION. WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT IN THE DEPARTMENT HE MEET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS AND, IF TIME IS AVAILABLE, WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM. ALL WILL FIND HIM A TRENCHANT AND WITTY COMMENTATOR

ON INDIAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, A GOOD FRIEND OF
THE US (WHERE HE WAS EDUCATED AS AN ARCHITECT AT BERKELEY),
AND A STRONG SUPPORTER OF IMPROVED INDO-US RELATIONS.

4. MODY CAN BE CONTACTED IN NEW YORK C/O HIS COUSIN N.R. MODY
AT TATA ENTERPRISES, 425 PARK AVENUE, OR AT THE DRAKE HOTEL.
GOHEEN

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